

AMERICAN AVIATORS IN AIR BATTLES ON THE METZ FRONT

of bitterly defended trenches. The enemy lost heavily. British patrols to-day were reported near the town.

Five hundred prisoners were taken by the French in the St. Quentin sector yesterday.

PARIS, Sept. 25.—German troops last night made an effort to regain some of the valuable ground recently won from them by the French near the western end of the Chemin-des-Dames. They attacked in the region of the Moisy Farm, in this area, but, according to to-day's War Office statement, the effort was an entire failure.

ARTILLERY ON BOTH SIDES
ACTIVE ON THE METZ FRONT

Rain Storms Are Over, and Aviators Are Out in Great Numbers, With Americans Successfully Guarding Their Own Lines.

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN LORRAINE, Sept. 25 (Associated Press).—Airmen of both armies were active early to-day, and increased artillery action was noted along the lines of the old St. Mihiel sector. Bright skies have replaced the clouds and rain of recent days, and aerial observers were sent out by both the Americans and the Germans.

German flyers extended their operations in some cases many miles behind the lines but sharp countering by the Americans gave them little opportunity for close observation for photographic work. Infantry patrols as well as aviation groups were active behind the lines.

The artillery on both sides bombarded objectives behind the front lines, the gunners seeking the cross roads and troops formations far and near.

LATEST OFFICIAL REPORTS

FRENCH.

PARIS, Sept. 25.—The following statement was issued to-day by the War Office:

"In the course of the night the artillery was active in the region of St. Quentin and between the Ailette and the Aisne. German attacks in the region of the Moisy Farm were completely checked.

"On the Vesle front a lively artillery fire was maintained. French troops repulsed German raiding parties in the Champagne and in Lorraine, and in the latter region carried out an incursion into the German lines."

BRITISH

LONDON, Sept. 25.—The text of to-day's British official statement follows:

"Our troops made further progress yesterday evening and during the night in the neighborhood of Selency and Gricourt.

"In the course of the day's operations the enemy made several counter-attacks, two of which were delivered in great strength north of Gricourt. Both counter-attacks were repulsed.

"In one case two companies of the

Second Battalion of the Royal Sussex Regiment met the attacking enemy with the bayonet, inflicting heavy casualties upon him and capturing a number of prisoners."

"An immediate counter attack by our troops completely restored the situation. We took forty prisoners. A total of 1,000 prisoners and a large number of machine guns were captured in our operations yesterday northwest of St. Quentin.

"As the result of a successful minor operation carried out by us on Monday night we advanced our line slightly southeast of Hincin (west of Cambrai). During the same night hostile raids were repulsed east of Demicourt and north of Lens.

"Another hostile raid west of Sauchy-Cauchy (south of Douai) succeeded in capturing one of our posts. A few members of the garrison are missing. Last night the enemy again attacked our posts in the neighborhood of Sauchy-Cauchy. He was repulsed.

"We carried out a successful raid last night in the Wulverghem sector. A few prisoners were secured in the course of these encounters."

SERBIAN.

LONDON, Sept. 25.—Following is the statement issued by the Serbian War Office:

"The advance of the Serbian troops continues without any interruption on the left bank of the Vardar and north of the Priep-Grado road. French troops have entered Priep.

"The retreating enemy is fighting rear guard actions and is falling back toward Velea.

"On the other side of the Vardar we have taken war material. On the Priep-Grado road we counted thirteen guns, a great number of ammunition wagons, field kitchens and other material and many head of cattle.

"The Bulgarians have abandoned a hospital with 120 wounded. Several Rumanian soldiers have been set free from Bulgarian captivity."

ITALIAN.

ROME, Sept. 25.—Italian troops in Western Macedonia are pressing northward vigorously and have occupied the heights north of Topolchani, midway between Monastir and Priep, according to an official statement from the War Office to-day.

AMERICAN.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 25.—The following communiqué from Gen. Pershing was made public to-day:

"In the Woerw successful raiding parties brought in prisoners. Aside from increased artillery activity in the same sector there is nothing further to report."

AUSTRIAN.

VIENNA, Tuesday, Sept. 24 (via London, Sept. 25).—Austro-Hungarian General Headquarters issued the following statement today on operations on the Italian front:

"On the plateau between Canove and Monte Di Valbella the enemy yesterday (Monday) launched new attacks. At Monte Siamoni, after intense artillery fire, French and Italian attacking detachments penetrated our lines, but a counter thrust drove them back."

GERMAN.

BERLIN, Sept. 25 (via London).—After fighting yesterday in the region west of St. Quentin the town of Francilly-Selency remained in the hands of the enemy (the French), says to-day's army headquarters report.

The repulse of renewed enemy attacks in the region of Meuvres, west of Cambrai, is claimed. In the St. Quentin region fighting, the enemy forces attacking the German positions gained a footing in Pontant and Gricourt.

HEAVY GUNS TAKEN 6,000 FEET
UP MOUNTAINS FOR DRIVE
AGAINST BULGARIAN FORCES

Remarkable Preparations by the Allies Right Under Eyes of the Enemy—Goat Paths Transformed Into Roads.

PARIS, Sept. 25.—Preparations for the present great operations in Macedonia began in August, telegraphs the correspondent of the Petit Parisien on the Salonica front. Various circumstances prevented Gen. Franchet d'Espèrey, the Allied commander, from beginning his preparations earlier and quick work was imperative for if the summer heat lingers along the coast the winter is often early and severe in the high mountain zones.

The sector chosen for the attack lacked communications except for goat paths which were impracticable for artillery. A road was laid out from Doline to Polar and Grevesta and Serbian engineers set to work vigorously long before the French troops, to whom had been assigned the task of piercing the Bulgarian line, were in position. The Allied staff established quarters on the ground and tackled the enormous task of preparation.

The mountainous region from Dobro-Polje to Kozlak is very wild and covered with low brushwood and dense forests, interspersed with deep ravines, chasms and precipices. The Bulgarians thought themselves safe from attack by reason of these natural difficulties that they did not attempt to interfere with the Allied preliminary work and contented themselves merely with reinforcing their line, the more easily to hurl the Allies back. Little by little, as the road was built, guns were pushed up toward the front and huge ammunition dumps constructed.

HEAVY GUNS HOISTED TO ALTITUDE OF 6,000 FEET.

Heavy guns were hoisted into positions at an altitude of 6,000 feet. They were brought as far as possible by tractors, then hauled by horses and mules and finally dragged into place by man-power.

Soldiers of the signal detachments had to become Alpinists to lay their telephone and telegraph lines in this chaos of rocks and trees. The Bulgarians watched all these efforts and failed even to shell the Allies occasionally. It must be added, however, continued the correspondent, that everything was camouflaged admirably.

It is only during the night preceding

the attack that the assaulting troops were brought up. Promptly at 5 o'clock on the morning of Sept. 14 the artillery opened with such vigor as to surprise the Bulgarians who were not aware that heavy guns were facing them. The brushwood was soon set afire and long columns of yellowish smoke began to ascend from the hill sides, while the great valley resounded with the roar of the guns. The artillery preparations lasted all day. The Bulgarians tried to reply with 155's, but did little harm.

On Sept. 15 at 5 o'clock in the morning the Allied creeping barrage fire began, in which he stated that it elected United States Senator he would not be bound by any political party he read at the opening of the Democratic State Convention here today. The only specific obligation or pledge involved in his acceptance of the nomination, Ford said, was to support President Wilson's war measures. He concluded by saying that he had not spent and did not intend to spend a penny to be elected.

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CAPT. JOHN JACOB ASTOR
REPORTED TO BE WOUNDED
FOR SECOND TIME IN WAR

Son of Viscount Injured First in October, 1914—Officer of Royal Household Cavalry.

LONDON, Sept. 25.—Capt. John Jacob Astor of the Royal Household Cavalry, the younger son of Viscount Astor, is reported wounded. This is the second time the young officer has been wounded during the war, his first wound having been received in October, 1914. He was then an officer in the First Life Guards, to which he had been appointed with probational rank in 1906.

In 1916 Capt. Astor married Lady Charles Mercer Nairne, the widow of Major Lord Charles Mercer Nairne, who was killed in the same engagement in which Astor was wounded. She is the daughter of Lord Minto, former Viceroy of India.

Capt. Astor was born in May, 1886. His father was made a peer in 1916, with the title of Baron Astor of Hever Castle. In 1917 he was made Viscount.

U. S. CONSULATE IN MOSCOW
HAVEN FOR ALLIED OFFICERS

Bolshevik Place Guard Around Building and Demand They and Officials Surrender.

LONDON, Sept. 25.—A number of French and British officers have taken refuge in the American Consulate at Moscow, which is under the protection of Norway, according to a despatch from Copenhagen to the Exchange Telegraph Company. The Bolshevik Government has placed a guard around the building and has demanded the surrender of the officers and the consulate officials.

STOCKHOLM, Sept. 25.—British Consul Lockhart has been imprisoned in the Kremlin at Moscow. Red Guard troops are guarding the American Consulate there. The Bolshevik Government has placed a guard around the building and has demanded the surrender of the officers and the consulate officials.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 25.—A political conference, the purpose of which is the creation of a central government for the whole of Russia, is taking place at Ufa, according to a cable received by the Russian Embassy here from the joint Siberian Government at Omsk.

PREFERS TO BE GERMAN.

"Wilby" Splitter, Born Here, Claims Draft Exemption as Alien.

Born in the United States of German parents, and making frequent trips to Germany, "Wilby" Splitter of No. 516 West 190th Street, told Peery Armstrong of the Enemy Alien Bureau to-day, that he preferred to be known as a subject of the Kaiser.

"Wilby" as he spells it, was sent to the Bureau by Local Draft Board No. 419, because he claimed to be an alien.

No decision has been made in his case yet.

Prisoners' Exchange Proceedings Withheld.

PARIS, Sept. 25.—The German-American conference on exchange of prisoners will keep its proceedings secret, until a decision is reached, according to a despatch from Berlin to-day.

DIED.

CAMP, Sept. 23, of pneumonia. MORRISON RALPH CAMP of Boston, Mass., son of Charles H. and Anna Camp, aged 38 years.

Funeral service from the Funeral Church, Broadway and 66th St. (Frank E. Campbell), Wednesday, 3 P. M. Interment: Woodlawn Cemetery.

SWEDISH GUNBOAT IS SUNK
BY STRIKING GERMAN MINE

Chief Officer of Ship and Eighteen Men Reported Lost in the Skagerrak.

COPENHAGEN, Sept. 25.—The Swedish gunboat Geinild has been sunk by striking a German mine in the Skagerrak with the loss of the Chief officer and eighteen men, reports the correspondent of the Politiken at the Skaw, the northernmost point of Denmark.

Persistent rumors, the correspondent adds are current at the Skaw, that another Swedish gunboat struck a mine a few days ago and that a greater part of the crew were killed.

The Geinild was a little craft of 240 tons, built in 1863. She carried only two machine guns.

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